

For the year 1945 of

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To the DEPWAD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Harleston, July 1946.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Thirty-second Annual Report on your Sanitary District.

In accordance with the instructions from the Ministry of Health this report is on the lines of that of 1944.

The area of your District is 79,742 acres.

Population (1945) 17,450.

Number of inhabited houses, 1931 Census, 5,087. 1945, 5,400 approx.

Number of families and separate occupiers, 1931 Census, 4920.

Rateable Value, £46,257.

Sum represented by 1d rate £207 (approximately).

Births: Legitimate 120 Males. 116 Females. Total 236.

Illegitimate 36 Males. 25 Females. Total 61.

Stillbirths -

Legitimate 4 Males. 5 Females. Total 9

Illegitimate 4 Males. 2 Females. Total 6

Total Births, 297. Birth rate, 17.02 per 1,000.

Total Deaths, 231. Death rate, 13.23 per 1,000.

Stillbirths, rate per 1,000 total births, 50.50

Percentage of Total Deaths occurring in Public Institutions, 44.58.

Deaths from Puerperal causes.
Number.

Rate per 1,000
total births.

Puerperal sepsis.....0
" causes..... 0

0
0

Total, all causes... 0

0

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:-

Legitimate 3 Male. 5 Females. Total 8

Illegitimate, 1 Male. 3 " Total 4

per 1,000 births:-

Legitimate, 26.93 Illegitimate, 13.46. Total 40.39

Deaths from Measles (all ages). 0.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) 0.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) 1.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

These remain as in the Report for 1938.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA IN YEAR 1945.

WATER. The following table shows the number of samples taken with results.

Samples submitted to Public Analyst...	...	11
Samples found to be dangerous to health	...	0
Found to be of poor quality only	...	3
Submitted to bacteriological examination	...	
and found to be fit for drinking	...	1

Cartage of Water was necessary to the Council Houses at Gt. Moulton owing to the well going dry.

PIPED SUPPLY.

Chlorination carried out at Harleston.

Two samples were submitted for bacteriological examination by the Local Authority.

1 from Harleston - 1 from Long Stratton - both satisfactory.

Number of Dwelling Houses supplied:-

	<u>Harleston.</u>	<u>Long Stratton.</u>
1. Direct to Houses	323	106
2. By Standpipe.	67	16
3. Population served (Estimated)	1,350	390

MILK PRODUCTION.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders.

" Accredited" Licenses granted ...	...	...	70
" " suspended..	...	...	5
Transferred to "T.T" License	...	...	7
Samples taken for Methylene blue test ..	...	...	158
" " " Biological Examination for T.B.	...	...	82
Samples for T.B. giving positive results.	...	...	2

Milk and Dairies Orders.

New applications have been received for Registration and premises have been visited. Advice as to necessary adaptation or reconstruction has been given, and the carrying out of these works supervised.

Samples for Methylene Blue Test taken from non-designated producers ...	18
(9 failures) Repeat samples passed.	

Milk (Special Designations). Samples for Methylene Blue Test.	158
(54 failures) Repeat samples passed.	

Samples taken from non-designated producers for biological examination for T.B.	84
Samples for T.B. giving positive results	Nil

INSPECTION OF FOODSTUFFS.

During the year the following foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

Tinned Fish	49 No.	Peas	Tinned	10 No.
Wet Fish	12 lbs.	Beans	"	12 "
Meat - Fresh Pork	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	Soups	"	6 "
- Tinned	164 "	Preserves	"	30 lbs
Imported Pig Liver	41 "	Cheese	"	8 "
- Bacon	54 "	Cornflakes	"	4 "
Milk - Tinned.	70 "	Biscuit Meal		112 "
Sugar	12 "	Pudding Mixture		
Tea	26 "	Tinned.		346 No.

HOUSING.

During the latter part of the year a start was made on the Post-War Housing Programme which provides for 182 brick and 16 Swedish Timber houses in the first two years. Complaints under the Public Health and Housing Acts have been investigated and remedied by informal action as far as present conditions of labour and materials have allowed. The routine repair and maintenance of the Council's houses has continued.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There have been no serious outbreaks of notifiable infectious diseases. Investigations were carried out in respect of 20 cases of Scarlât Fever, 9 cases of Diphtheria, 6 cases of Pulmonary T.B.

Disinfections were carried out at 25 premises.

19 cases were removed to Isolation Hospital.

23 Swabs examined and 2 other bacteriological examinations made.

DIPHTHERIA.

Arrangements for the examination of bacteriological specimens have been transferred from the County Laboratory to the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Isolation Hospital, Bowthorpe Road, Norwich. The supply of Diphtheria Anti-toxin by the County Council has been discontinued, and practitioners in the District have been asked to make their own local arrangements for procuring it.

<u>Immunisation</u>	<u>Under 5.</u>	<u>Between 5 & 15.</u>
Estimated number of children in Authority's area at 31, Dec. 1945.	1300	2475
Percentage of child population immunised at 31. Dec. 1945.	46%	89%

SCABIES.

Number of cases notified from various sources.	35
" " " receiving institutional treatment	Nil

Printed instructions as to the proper course to adopt are distributed to every house where a case is known to have occurred.

Steam disinfection of bedding etc., where this is necessary, is carried out at Dereham Isolation Hospital by arrangement with the County Medical Officer.

SCAVENGING.- HARLESTON.

This matter was re-considered during the year, with result that the scheme is now carried out by Contract instead of Direct Labour.

I am glad to have this opportunity of thanking Mr. Bowden again for the assistance which he so willingly gives me and also Mr. Jepson for his useful co-operation.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I thank you for your continued confidence.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

FREDERICK N.H. MAIDMENT.

M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S.E.

Medical Officer of Health.

